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News Release

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Tennessee Winter Wheat Production Forecast down 15 percent from 2013

According to the Tennessee Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service <u>Tennessee</u> farmers expect to produce 32.6 million bushels of **winter wheat** from 480,000 acres for harvest this season. At this level, production would be down 15 percent from 2013 and 7 percent from the June forecast. Based on crop conditions as of July 1, growers expect a yield of 68.0 bushels per acre, down 3.0 bushels from 2013 and 2.0 bushels from last month's forecast.

Persistent and sometimes heavy rains substantially helped the crop during its maturation stage. Those same rains, however, significantly delayed harvest. The winter wheat crop is 57 percent harvested, compared to 74 percent at this time last year and a 5-year average of 90 percent.

Winter wheat production for the <u>Nation</u> was forecast at 1.37 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the June 1 forecast and down 11 percent from 2013. Based on July 1 conditions, the United States yield is forecast at 42.2 bushels per acre, down 0.2 bushels from last month and down 5.2 bushels from last year. The expected area to be harvested for grain or seed totals 32.4 million acres, up slightly from last year.